

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 EC BRU 01493 192144 Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 PM-09 L-03 NEA-10 PA-03

PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 SS-14 NSC-10 T-03

AGR-20 H-02 RSR-01 /183 W
----- 093870

R 191803 Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4894

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UESGPQ/ AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 7279

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 1493

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, EEC, US

SUBJECT: MARCH SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1455

1. SUMMARY. IN ADDITION TO THOSE SUBJECTS ALREADY REPORTED IN REFTEL, THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN ITS MARCH SESSION DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST. THESE INCLUDED AN EXPRESSION OF COUNCIL VIEWS ON US/ EC RELATIONS, FOOD PRICES AND EC MEDITERRANEAN POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE, AS PRESIDENT OF THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 EC BRU 01493 192144 Z

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, REPLIED TO AN ORAL QUESTION BY SIR JOHN PEEL (BRITISH CONSERVATIVE) WHICH SUGGESTED THAT EC AND NATO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHT MEET TO DISCUSS ATLANTIC DEFENSE AND POLITICAL QUESTIONS (SEE EC A-89). VAN ELSLANDE REPLIED THAT THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE QUESTION LAY OUTSIDE THE COMPETENCE OF THE EC COUNCIL BUT THAT QUESTIONS RELATING TO POLITICAL COOPERATION COULD BE RAISED AT THE SEMIANNUAL MEETINGS ON POLITICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PARLIAMENT' S POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT. THIS REPLY WAS BASED ON A PREPARED TEXT WHICH HAD BEEN CLEARED BY THE COUNCIL. VAN ELSLANDE THEN ADDED HIS PERSONAL VIEWS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PROBLEM OF THE U. S. TROOP PRESENCE IN EUROPE RECEIVES THE CONTINUING ATTENTION OF EUROPEAN MINISTERS, THAT THE EUROGROUP IN NATO CONCERNS ITSELF WITH EUROPE' S DEFENSE EFFORTS, THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS PLEDGED TO MAINTAIN U. S. TROOPS IN EUROPE PROVIDED EUROPE MAINTAINS ITS EFFORTS, AND THAT THE NEED FOR A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE EC AND THE U. S. IS MORE AND MORE APPRECIATED ESPECIALLY ON THE MONETARY AND TRADE LEVELS. PEEL LATER REPONDED SAYING VAN ELSLANDE' S REPLY WAS UNSATISFACTORY. HE SAID THE COMMUNITY MUST CONSIDER THE LINK BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND DEFENSE QUESTIONS. (THE RECORD OF THIS EXCHANGE WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND USNATO.)

3. ONE OF THE QUESTIONS DURING " QUESTION TIME" RAISED THE POINT OF FOOD PRICES AND INFLATION. A SOMEWHAT UNSATISFACTORY RESPONSE BY COMMISSION MEMBER LARDINOIS LED TO A REQUEST FOR AN HOUR' S IMMEDIATE DEBATE ON THIS SUBJECT. APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES OF THE HOUR WERE CONSUMED BY POINTS OF ORDER AND CONFUSION REGARDING THE NEW IMMEDIATE DEBATE PROCEDURE AND THE SUBJECT WAS FINALLY DISCUSSED FOR ONLY THE REMAINING 30 MINUTES. IN GENERAL, MEMBERS INDICATED THEIR CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT INFLATION AND THE PART PLAYED BY AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT PRICES IN THE PRICE OF FOOD. THIS SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED AGAIN DURING THE NEXT SESSION WHEN 1973/74 AGRICULTURAL PRICES ARE SCHEDULED TO BE DISCUSSED.

4. A SHORT AND SOMEWHAT INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE ON THE COMMUNITY' S MEDITERRANEAN POLICY WAS PROMPTED BY A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES OF THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY. NO SUPPORT WAS EXPRESSED DURING THIS DEBATE BY MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT FOR REVERSE PREFERENCES AND SOME MEMBERS (PARTICULARLY BRITISH CON-

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 EC BRU 01493 192144 Z

SERVATIVES) WERE CRITICAL OF THEM. SPEAKING FOR THE COMMISSION,

DENIAU SAID HE PERSONALLY DID NOT FAVOR REVERSE PREFERENCES BUT THAT THE COMMUNITY IS OBLIGATED TO ACCEPT THEM BECAUSE IT WISHES TO HAVE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH COUNTRIES HAVING HISTORICAL TIES WITH EC MEMBER STATES. A FREE TRADE AREA, HE ADDED, OR A CUSTOMS UNION IS THE ONLY EXCEPTION PERMITTED BY GATT TO MFN WHICH WILL PERMIT THE DESIRED RELATIONSHIP. DENIAU ALSO ALLUDED TO THE PROBLEM OF US CITRUS EXPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY BY ASKING THE RHETORICAL QUESTION, " IS THE US A DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND SHOULD CALIFORNIA BE PUT ON THE SAME LEVEL AS THE MAHGREB?"
GREENWALD

UNCLASSIFIED

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ECBRU01493
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730342/aaaaimia.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 EC BRUSSELS 1455
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <15-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980108
Subject: MARCH SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
TAGS: PGOV, US, EEC
To: BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EUR
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG

PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005